

# PMA FARM NEWS

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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HAY OR SEED? Farmers of \_\_\_\_\_ county who are undecided as to whether to make hay or seed from their crop(s) of (list legume and grass crops from which seed might be produced this year) might well take a good look at the seed picture, says \_\_\_\_\_, chairman of the county PMA committee.

\_\_\_\_\_ points out that with the reserves of such crops as wheat, cotton, corn, barley, and oats piling up on the farms and in warehouses, there is a need to shift production to grass and legumes.

Supplies of many varieties of grass and legume seeds are insufficient now to take care of the normal seedings. When this demand is added to the need for seeding of land taken out of allotment crops, it should indicate that where a farmer can grow a good crop of seed he shouldn't have to worry about a market for it.

\_\_\_\_\_ urged farmers who can turn a crop for seed to get in touch with the county PMA committee for information on price supports and market requirements. Information on adapted varieties, production, cleaning, storing, marketing, and pure seed programs can be obtained from county Extension Agents.

\_\_\_\_\_ said that where a crop can be harvested for seed, the farmer would not only benefit from the market demand for such seed but also contribute to greater protection of the soil and a more balanced farm production.

The chairman suggests that before a crop is allowed to go to seed, the farmer should make sure of machinery and facilities for harvesting, cleaning and marketing.

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WOOL SUPPORT PROGRAM CONTINUES: The Government's wool price-support program remains in effect, Mr. J. E. Kasper, Chairman of the State Production and Marketing Committee, said today in explaining the recent suspension of selling price schedules for 1950 shown and pulled wool.

"The schedules are being suspended indefinitely because of a previously announced policy to maintain 1950 wool selling prices as high as market prices," Mr. Kasper states. "Market prices for wool have been rising rapidly for several weeks and are now far above prices in the selling schedules."

Under the 1950 wool price support program, the support is at a national average of 45.2 cents per pound, grease basis, or 90 percent of parity. Current legislation makes wool support mandatory at levels between 60 and 90 percent of parity with the further provision that support shall be at a level needed to encourage an annual production of approximately 360 million pounds of shorn wool.

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'TIME TO STRENGTHEN FARM PROGRAMS,' SAYS PMA HEADS:

"It was never more important that the fundamental farm programs be strengthened and that their local administration be geared to the highest level of efficiency." This was the crux of a message to farmer-committeemen from Ralph Trigg and Frank Woolley, Administrator and Deputy Administrator, respectively, Production and Marketing Administration.

"We must keep the programs flexible and see that they are balanced to meet developing needs. We must protect our production plant through continuing sound conservation practices. We must work in all ways for a healthy agriculture so that farmers can keep on making their full contribution to a stable national economy.

"In this period of international uncertainty, it is comforting to know that the farm program has built substantial reserves of basic farm commodities. There is also a lot of satisfaction in knowing that we have the programs and the experience with which to meet changing conditions.

"Foremost among these assets is the farmer-committee system itself. Through it you have developed the leadership, the understanding, and the ability to work together which will guarantee successful program operations in the national interest and in accordance with the democratic principles which have made the country great..

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PMA ANNOUNCES HONEY PRICE SUPPORT PROGRAM:

Beekeepers in North Dakota are advised that Federal price support is available at the rate of 9 cents per pound for honey produced during the 1950 marketing season which began April 1. This announcement comes from the North Dakota Production and Marketing Administration office in Fargo.

Mr. J. E. Kasper, North Dakota PMA committee chairman, explains that the support price applies to extracted honey produced in the continental United States, packed in clean, sound tin cans of 60-pound net capacity, equal to or better than U. S. Grade B and delivered to packer's plant. Under provisions of the Agricultural Act of 1949, price support on honey is mandatory for the first time, at levels ranging from 60 to 90 percent of the parity price.

"The 9-cents-per-pound rate is 60 percent of the 60-pound container parity price as of April 1, 1950," the chairman points out. In the 1949 season, prices to beekeepers were mostly in the range of 7 to 12 cents per pound for honey sold in 60-pound containers, according to PMA.

The chairman explains that price support, if required, will be accomplished through purchases from packers who pay not less than the applicable support price for all eligible honey acquired from beekeepers, after entering into agreements to that effect with the Commodity Credit Corporation. Prices paid to packers will include allowances for handling costs.

"It is our understanding that contract forms will be mailed soon to all commercial honey packers of record," says Mr. Kasper. "However, forms can also be secured in the near future from the PMA Commodity Office in Minneapolis.

Address of the PMA Commodity Office that serves this area is 15 North Eighth Street, Minneapolis 3, Minnesota.

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Always adapt our suggested news releases to fit the situation in your county, eliminate those not particularly of interest to farmers in your area, and add local items of interest.